

In the Claims:

1. (presently amended) A method of transfecting a cell, comprising:
 - a) providing:
 - i) a transfection complex immobilized on a surface, said complex comprising nucleic acid and first, ~~and second,~~ and third complexing agents, said first complexing agent comprising a ligand for a receptor, said second complexing agent comprising a DNA binding molecule, and said third complexing agent comprising a membrane permeable molecule; and
 - ii) a cell; and
 - b) contacting the cell with the nucleic acid in the transfection complex under conditions such that the cell is transfected.
2. (canceled)
3. (presently amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein the DNA-binding molecule is a cationic protein.
4. (presently amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein the membrane permeable molecule is a cationic lipid.
5. (original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the ligand is covalently linked to the cationic protein.
6. (original) The method of Claim 5, wherein the transfection complex further comprises one or more cationic lipids.
7. (original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the ligand is transferrin and the cationic protein is polylysine.

8. (presently amended) The method of Claim 21, wherein the transfection complex further comprises one or more additional complexing agents selected from the group consisting of targeting molecules, transcription molecules, nucleic acid degradation inhibitors, cell growth and integrity modulators, and mixtures thereof.

9. (original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of expressing the nucleic acid in the transfected cell.

10. (original) The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of detecting the expression of the nucleic acid in the transfected cell.

11. (presently amended) A method of transfecting a cell, comprising

a) immobilizing a transfection complex on a surface, said complex comprising nucleic acid first, ~~and second~~ and third complexing agents, said first complexing agent comprising a ligand for a receptor, ~~and said second complexing agent comprising a DNA binding molecule~~ and said third complexing agent comprising a membrane permeable molecule; and

b) contacting the cell with the immobilized nucleic acid in the transfection complex under conditions sufficient to transfect the cell.

12. (presently amended) A method of transfecting a cell, comprising:

- a) combining nucleic acid with first, ~~and second~~ and third complexing agents, said first complexing agent comprising a ligand for a receptor, ~~and said second complexing agent comprising a DNA binding molecule, and said third complexing agent comprising a membrane permeable molecule~~, so as to form at least one transfection complex comprising nucleic acid and said first and second complexing agent;
- b) immobilizing said transfection complex on a surface so as to form immobilized nucleic acid; and
- d) contacting said cell with said immobilized nucleic acid in said transfection

complex under conditions such that said cell is transfected.

13. (original) A method of transfecting a cell, comprising:

- a) covalently linking transferrin to polylysine to form a transferrin-polylysine complex;
- b) combining nucleic acid and a cationic lipid with said covalently linked transferrin-polylysine complex to form at least one transfection complex;
- c) immobilizing said transfection complex on a surface so as to form immobilized nucleic acid;
- d) contacting said cell with said immobilized nucleic acid in said transfection complex under conditions such that said cell is transfected.

14-24. (Withdrawn)

25. (presently amended) A transfection complex comprising nucleic acid and first, ~~and~~ second and third complexing agents, said first complexing agent comprising a ligand for a receptor, ~~and~~ said second complexing agent comprising a DNA binding molecule and said third complexing agent comprising a membrane permeable molecule, wherein said transfection complex is immobilized to a surface.

26. (canceled)

27. (original) The transfection complex of Claim 25, wherein the DNA-binding molecule is a cationic protein.

28. (presently amended) The transfection complex of Claim 27, wherein the membrane permeable molecule is a cationic lipid.

29. (original) The transfection complex of Claim 27, wherein the ligand is covalently linked to the cationic protein.

30. (original) The transfection complex of Claim 29, wherein the ligand is transferrin and the cationic protein is polylysine.

31. (original) The transfection complex of claim 29 further comprising one or more cationic lipids.

32. (presently amended) The transfection complex of Claim 26, further comprising at least one additional complexing agent selected from the group consisting of targeting molecules, transcription molecules, nucleic acid degradation inhibitors, cell growth and integrity modulators, and mixtures thereof.

33. (canceled)

34-36. (Withdrawn)

37. (presently amended) A method of transfecting a cell, comprising:

a) providing:

- i) a transfection complex immobilized on a surface, said complex comprising nucleic acid and first, ~~and second,~~ and third complexing agents, said first complexing agent comprising a ligand for a receptor, said second complexing agent comprising a DNA binding molecule, and said third complexing agent comprising a membrane permeable molecule; and
- ii) a cell; and
- b) contacting the cell with the immobilized transfection complex on the surface under conditions such that cells are transfected using an active transport process.

38. (presently amended) A transfection complex comprising a nucleic acid, a cationic lipid, a ligand for a receptor and a DNA binding protein, wherein the ligand is a viral protein and wherein the viral protein is covalently bound to the DNA binding protein, and wherein said transfection complex is immobilized on a surface.

39. (original) The transfection complex of Claim 38, wherein the viral protein is selected from the group consisting of penton protein, HIV protein GP120, equine rhinitis A virus protein VP1, human adenovirus protein E3, and Epstein-Barr virus protein GP350.

40. (original) The transfection complex of Claim 38, wherein the viral protein is penton protein.

41. (original) The transfection complex of Claim 38, wherein the DNA-binding protein is selected from the group consisting of polylysine and a histone.

42. (original) The transfection complex of claim 38, wherein the cationic lipid is lipofectamine.